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House of Representatives

The House met at 11 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

In all the troubled moments in an unsteady world when we think of the promises of a better day tempered with the tensions between nations and peoples, we look to Your presence in our lives, O gracious God, and ask for Your blessing upon us. When we seek direction, we know where we can go; when we seek solace we know where to find comfort; when we seek encouragement, we know that You will inspire and support. May Your peace, O God, that passes all human understanding, be with us and remain with us now and evermore. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. HOYER] come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. HOYER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain fifteen 1-minutes on each side.

NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL RE-VIEW BOARD MUST ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND SAFETY CONCERNS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, almost 10 years ago the Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board was created by Congress to determine the most suitable site for storing nuclear waste. This board was made up of the most prominent members of the scientific community, not one of whom hails from Nevada.

What recommendation did this board make? Well, in their March 1996 report they concluded that there was absolutely no compelling technical or safety reason to remove spent fuel from its current location to a central facility. This expert, nonpartisan review board made this determination based on irrefutable, unbiased, scientific research.

What legitimate excuse, then, could justify the moving of nuclear waste from on-site storage, placing the health, welfare, and safety of many citizens in jeopardy? There are still many environmental and safety concerns that must be addressed before we move forward and mandate an unsafe permanent or interim nuclear waste storage facility at Yucca Mountain.

WIC PROGRAM A GREAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SUCCESS STORY

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, last week my Republican colleagues voted against the President's request for \$76 million for the WIC Program. That is women, infants, and children. Our friends on the other side of the aisle will tell us that they voted to increase

spending on women, infants, and children, but their so-called increase will force 180,000 women and children to be removed from the WIC Program.

WIC is one of the Government's greatest success stories, and every dollar that we invest in the program saves the Government \$3.50 in other costs. If this bill passes without the additional \$38 million that it needs, we will be hurting some of the most vulnerable members of our society: pregnant women and young children.

This is about values. This is about

This is about values. This is about throwing 180,000 women and children off of a food program. It will deny youngsters food.

Last year my colleagues on the other side of the aisle tried to cut the school lunch program. Now they are going after WIC. It is wrong. This is the richest Nation in the world. We should not be taking food out of the mouths of children. I urge my Republican colleagues to rethink their actions.

SUPPORT H.R. 659

(Mr. BURR of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, sometimes the Government makes a mistake and, yes, even agencies make mistakes. But the test of effective government is how quickly an institution can correct their errors.

In 1990, in a case of mistaken identity, the Environmental Protection Agency listed a chemical called ethylene glycol monobutyl ether, or EGBE, on its hazardous air pollutant list under the Clean Air Act amendments. This chemical is considered not harmful to the ozone and, according to scientific studies, does not harm the environment.

The listing of this nontoxic substance will trigger regulations costing each can manufacturer about \$5 million to comply, and the EPA's hands

 \Box This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., \Box 1407 is 2:07 p.m. Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

